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(54) Multicolored surgical braid.

(57) A multicolored braided surgical suture is woven in one embodiment in a spiral multi-color braid. The suture is braided by moving thread carriers from position to position around a circular path, with each carrier moving from a present position to a succeeding position which is at least two positions removed from its present position. Such spiral braided sutures are advantageously produced without core filaments, providing benefits in strength, smoothness, pliability, cylindrical uniformity without the discontinuity of properties characteristic of conventionally braided cored sutures and visibility. The surgical suture is woven in a multi-color lattice braid in another embodiment, providing a plurality of distributed core passageways for individual core fibers.

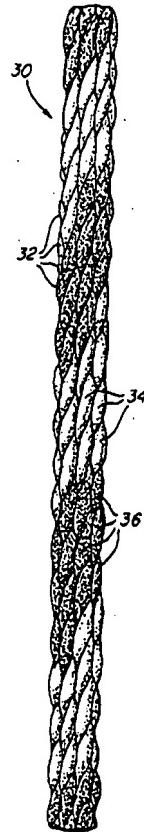


FIG. 3



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			EP 93100012.9				
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)				
X	<u>US - A - 4 959 069</u> (BRENNAN) * Totality * --	1-3,5-8	A 61 L 17/00				
Y	<u>US - A - 3 949 755</u> (VAUQUOIS) * Totality * --	1,4,9, 10					
A	<u>US - A - 3 565 077</u> (GLICK) * Claim 1; column 1, lines 65-72; column 8, lines 38-41; fig. 2-4 * ----	1,3,4					
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td colspan="2">TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. CL5)</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">A 61 L D 04 C D 07 B A 61 B</td> </tr> </table>				TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. CL5)		A 61 L D 04 C D 07 B A 61 B	
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A 61 L D 04 C D 07 B A 61 B							
<p>The present search report has been drawn up for all claims</p>							
Place of search VIENNA	Date of completion of the search 28-05-1993	Examiner SCHÄFER					
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document					
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document							